# SEASON TICKETS FOR OUR FORTHCOMING REDPATH CHAUTAUQUA

In arranging to inaugurate this Chautauqua this year the local committee bought 600 $2.50 season tickets which will be sold, while they last, by them for $2.00 each.

When these tickets are exhausted no season tickets thereafter can be had for less than $2.50. Also, the price of season tickets will not be reduced from the first day to the close of the Chautauqua.

For the single admissions to the respective entertainments see program. Season tickets are non-transferable except within the owner's family.

**CHILDREN'S TICKETS admit children aged six to fourteen years inclusive.**

ALL CHILDREN ARE ADMITTED TO THE CHILDREN'S WORK FREE.

CHAUTAUQUA WEEK HERE---JUNE 23 to 27


## MOUNTAIN AGRICULTURE

**Conducted by Mr. Robert F. Spence, Farm Demonstrator and Special Investigator**

### FIRE BLIGHT OR PEAR BLIGHT

Fire blight is one of the most serious of all the diseases attacking the pear and the apple. Nearly every pear and apple orchard at the present time shows indications of the presence of this disease. The leaves are turning brown, especially at the ends of the new growth, and they stand out in sharp contrast to the surrounding green foliage. When first noticed, only a tip of a branch appears to be infected, but if left undisturbed soon the whole limb and even the trunk of the tree will be infected.

Our State Experiment Station tells us that blight is caused by a minute germ or organism that lives during the dormant season in cankers, resulting from infection the previous season. In order to properly control this disease it is necessary that the farmer be able to recognize these holdover cankers, because if every holdover canker could be disposed of before the sap starts to flow in the spring the disease would be eradicated.

The presence of the canker is usually indicated by the appearance of the bark. Under ordinary condition there is a sharp line of difference separating the dead tissue from the healthy.

As soon as the sap starts to flow in the spring, a syrupy discharge containing the germ is given off from the holdover cankers. This discharge serves to attract bees and other insects and later they fly to nearby blossoms and broken bark tissues, spreading the disease as they travel. The germ multiplies very rapidly and in a short time the leaves surrounding the blossoms and twigs begin to die. Gradually it works down to the larger limbs, often spreading at the rate of a foot a day.

Since this disease is an internal one it's hard to find a remedy. The most logical thing to do is to cut out the canker where it winters over. The orchard should be inspected carefully several times and all suspicioins areas of any kind should be cut out in order to be safe.

Pruning during the summer is also a good plan but it is not as practical as winter pruning. If a large limb is removed the cut should be made several inches below the dead part in order to avoid any chance of futher infection.

Always burn the diseased limbs as soon as they are cut. The trees should be gone over at least once a week, and in many cases more often in order to dispose of the first indications of trouble.

### NOW IS THE TIME TO WORK

The President of the United States asks you to help feed the world. In an address delivered at the annual convention of the Chambers of Commerce of the United States, February 3, 1915. President Wilson said, in part: "There is a shortage of food in the world now. That shortage will be more serious a few months from now than it is now. It is necessary that we should plant a great deal more. It is necessary that our land yield more per acre than it does now. It is necessary that there should not be a plow or a spade idle in this country if the world is to be fed; and the farmers must feed upon the methods of scientific information to be derived from the State Department of Agriculture."

The above message ought to ring in the ears of every farmer. Now is the time to work and make the crops.

The Kentucky farmer is not only obligated to do his utmost to feed the world, but he owes it to himself to take the advantage of this opportunity and make enough to keep his family and a big profit; because prices will more than likely be higher than they have been in many years. Will you do your share?

You can not afford to raise these big crops at the expense of your soil, it is not necessary. Come to the Berea Farmers' meeting Saturday, May 29, and Prof. Geo. Roberts of State Experiment Station will give you the secret.

### Water Melons

This article on water melons was prepared for the use of the Farmers' Cooperative Demonstration work in the South by Prof. L. C. Corbett. There being many good suggestions in it for watermelon growing in this section I would like to place it before the farmers for their consideration.

The watermelon produces best on sandy loam soils which are well drained and well supplied with decomposing vegetable matter. The plants require a liberal supply of moisture while they are young but are able to thrive and produce satisfactory crops in regions which have a somewhat sparse rainfall during the ripening period for the melons. Some of the most successful watermelon growers prefer to prepare their land by turning under a crop of cowpeas the year previous to planting the watermelons. For land which has not been in cultivation for a number of years, growers choose areas which have been in broom sedge or any one of the annual grasses. These lands are much safer for growing a watermelon crop than are lands which have produced melons within a period of two or three years. In fact, watermelon culture should form a part of a rotation which allows from five to seven years to elapse between the watermelon crops. The land should be thoroughly prepared by deep plowing and harrowing so as to give a suitable seed bed. The watermelon enjoys the heated portion of the season for its growth and for this reason the seed does not require to be planted early. The land, however, should be prepared sufficiently in advance of the planting season to allow the weed seeds to start and to give an opportunity to destroy the first crop of weeds by cultivation before the melon crop is planted. This is an important feature in handling this crop because the main cultivation of the watermelon must be done early in the season before the vines cover the ground. In fact, the major portion of the cultivation of the watermelon should be done before the crop is planted.

The watermelon is a gross feeder and requires a liberal supply of immediately available food in the soil. The fertilizers used, therefore, should contain nitrogen in an available form, such as sulphate of ammonia or nitrate of soda in order to provide immediately an available food for the young plants. It is well however to use a portion of the nitrogen or ammonia in a less available form such as in the form of cottonseed meal or blood and bone meal. If a crop of cowpeas were turned under previous to planting the watermelons the supply of nitrogen, except that which should be immediately available and should be supplied in the form of nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia, will be made up by the nitrogen gathered by the cowpeas. If the land has not been prepared by plowing under a crop of cowpeas a fertilizer carrying 3 to 4 per cent of nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia, 8 to 10 per cent of potash, either sulphate or muriate, and about 8 per cent of phosphoric acid in the form of superphosphate or high-grade acid phosphate, should be used at the rate of 400 to 500 pounds to the acre if placed in the drills. If the fertilizer is broadcasted, double this amount should be used.

The seed of the watermelon should not be planted until the soil has been thoroughly prepared and until it is warm and all danger of frost has passed. Quick germination of the seed and rapid growth of the plants should be the aim in handling this crop. As a rule, the planting of watermelons should be delayed about ten days after that of planting corn. Since the watermelon is a vigorous growing plant, if it is to be planted in hills, the space between the hills should be about 8 feet and distance between the rows the same. If, however, the seed is scattered along the rows the plants may be thinned to stand a couple of feet apart in the row but the distance between the rows should be at least 8 feet.

A good method to follow in preparing a seed bed for planting watermelons is to open the furrow in which to scatter the fertilizer and after incorporating it with the soil by running a side harrow or other implement over it, to turn two furrows together over the bed of fertilizer so as to form a ridge or bed on which to plant the seed. In sections where the rainfall is abundant it is well to have the beds slightly above the general level of the surface but in dry regions the seed should be planted on the level or in a slight list. An abundance of seed should be used to insure a dense stand of plants either in the hill or in the row depending upon the system of planting used. After the plants have advanced far enough so that there is no futher danger of loss from attacks of insects, the plants in hills should be thinned so that only two or three of the most robust plants shall remain. Those in rows should be thinned to stand at intervals of 2 to 2½ feet. As stated in the outset, careful cultivation should be maintained so as keep the plantation free of weeds as long as the vine growth will permit. After the plants cover the ground large weeds should be removed by hand.

Some of the best growers of watermelons sow a light seeding of cowpeas in the watermelon fields at the time of the last cultivation. The cowpea acts as a partial shade to the fruits of the watermelons and is a means of preventing the vines from being whipped by the wind. Cowpeas are also an important asset as they add fertility to the land.

For shipping purposes those varieties which have a firm and not too thin rind should be chosen. The fruits should be uniform in size and should range in weight from 20 to 30 pounds. In order to be profitable the variety must be productive and the melons should be formed early. Local experience should serve as the best guide for the selection of varieties. Growers, however, should take in consideration the requirements of the market in which the melons are to be sold. Some markets demand a long melon while others demand spherical ones. Some markets prefer striped melons while others prefer self-colored ones. These peculiarities of the market, so far as they can be ascertained, should be taken into account in choosing the variety to be grown.

### POULTRY RAISERS

As a representative of the Poultry Investigational Division of the United States Department of Agriculture, I travel over miles and miles of territory in this state, and from the car windows I see many new poultry houses just completed or in the course of construction. A great majority of these are totally unfit for the housing of poultry.

There is little excuse for this state of affairs as the Poultry Department at Washington, and that department of your State Agricultural College, are prepared to furnish information regarding the construction of simple, practical and up-to-date poultry houses.

If there is any farmer in this county who is thinking of building a new poultry house or remodeling an old one and desires such information, write to me in care of the Agricultural Experiment Station, Lexington, Ky.

Yours very truly,
H. W. Rickey,
State Director Poultry Club Work.

## GENERAL FARM NOTES

Clean up the garden. Burn all weeds, vines, etc.

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When the hens are shedding they stop laying.

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Stale water is an abomination to a hen. Change it often.

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Laziness is responsible for some decreases in egg production.

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The best breed of dairy cows—the one that has the most intelligent care.

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Good masters and common cows often succeed, but, if reversed, expect failure.

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Ewes with long tails are a nuisance, but never de-tail a sheep in hot weather or flytime.

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The milking stool is made to sit on. Use a currycomb and brush in grooming your cows.

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Effective systems of farm marketing are among the greatest needs of present-day agriculture.

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It is better for your sire and all concerned to have a stable and yard fitted expressly for him.

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Do not let the dairy cows feed on the frost-bitten pastures. It injures both the cow and the pasture.

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If you have not already got it, build a detached milkhouse, where you can keep your milk in water.

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Do black hens make you think of crows? Then don't keep them. Look for the hens you like to look at best.

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Visit with your hens. They are sociable creatures and they will do better for one who "knows them when he sees them."

• • •

The poorest sheep of the whole lot may be the one that bears the best lamb. Some such mother sheep give all there is in them to their lambs.

### Roadbed Above Water.

Where there is standing water the roadbed should be kept at least a foot above the water surface and 18 inches is better. The nature of the soil and the length of time that the water stands along the road will to a degree determine how high the roadbed must be above the water.


## EXPENSE OF BUILDING ROADS

**Over $200,000,000 Spent in Highways Up to January 1, 1915—31,000 Miles Constructed.**

More than $200,000,000 of state appropriations have been expended to January 1, 1915, and an approximate total of 31,000 miles of surface highway constructed under state supervision since the inauguration of the policy known as "state aid," according to the Good Roads Year Book for 1915, issued by the American Highway association from its Washington office. Only seven states, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas, have no form of state highway department whatever, although Georgia grants aid to the counties for road improvement by lending the services of the entire male state convict force.

Legislatures are devoting much attention to road legislation and unquestionably several new highway depart-

Convicts Building a Good Road.

ments will result. North Carolina will probably establish an independent highway department in lieu of the work now done by the state geological survey relating to highways.

New Jersey in 1891 was the pioneer state in providing state aid for public highways. Massachusetts and Connecticut adopted the policy shortly after, but only during the last ten years has the state-aid policy been in effect on a considerable scale. About 5,000 miles of state highways were completed in 1913 and about 6,000 miles in 1914, so that the last two years have been responsible for more than one-third of the entire state highway mileage. The state highways in America now exceed by 6,000 miles the national road system of France.

To have state highway departments placed under non-partisan, efficient control; skilled supervision required in all construction work; a proper classification of highway to insure intelligent distribution of improvements; an adequate provision for maintenance of highways from the day of their completion—these are among the objects for which the American Highway association is waging a vigorous campaign.

## PRACTICAL GOOD ROADS TEXT

**Probably Three-Fourths of Difficulties Experienced in Season Could Be Eliminated.**

How much better to drag the roads in early spring than to let the roads themselves become a "drag" next summer, when heavy teams loaded with produce must be hauled to market.

Probably three-fourths of the dirt road difficulties experienced during the season could be eliminated by a little industry right now.

The pleasure later on of hauling over roads free from ruts and gigantic mud puddles after the summer shower, will make up for any extra work this spring.

Here is a practical good roads text that will be carried out by many progressive communities this year.

### Making Hard Roadbed.

To make a hard roadbed the soil must contain a fair amount of moisture. The control of the moisture requires that the roadbed be higher in the middle and smooth so that water cannot stand on it but will run off. If water can stand on the road, ruts will result, and when these are ground down, dust forms and finally a loose roadbed results.

### The Road Drag.

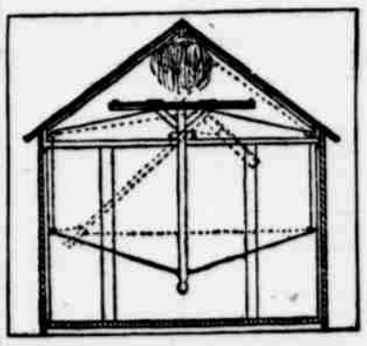
The road drag is the simplest and least expensive contrivance yet devised for maintaining earth roads.

## SCATTERING HAY OVER LOFT

**As Fodder Falls From Forks Device, Recently Patented, Places It Just Where Wanted.**

An invention which will interest the farmer is shown herewith, the subject of a recent patent granted by the United States patent office. It is the general custom to fill the barn by means of forks traveling overhead the length of the structure, but when the load is discharged the efforts of several men are required to scatter the hay to the sides and away from the center in order that the barn may be filled.

The principal feature of the device consists of a tilting platform which is secured to the timbers entering into the construction of the barn so that it



Device for Scattering Hay.

may be moved along to any desired point under the traveling fork. When the load is dropped from the latter the angle of the platform is changed to one which will direct the hay to any point where the level may be lower than that of the surroundings. An arrangement of this character enables one man to accomplish the same amount of work usually done by several.

## HANDLING FOWLS IN YARDS

**Methods by Which Birds May Be Given Variety—Green Food Must Be Furnished in Some Way.**

Where it is necessary to keep the fowls confined to houses and yards during the summer, and not much chance to divide the yards, the best way to handle them is to have the yards of four-foot netting, the top covered over as well, and every few weeks move these yards to a new location where fowls have not been the present year. This is considerable trouble, but it must be done if chicks and fowls are kept on a small area. If it is not possible to let the fowls have a range, then green food must be provided in some way. A good plan is to give them some cut grass or weeds at night just before they go to roost.

A better plan is to rake up the cuttings following the lawn mower, for they can consume these short blades better than grass cut with a scythe. All fowls in confinement ought to be allowed to run for an hour or two each night, even though it is necessary for several people to keep them out of mischief. This run will do them a world of good, and the egg results will pay for the trouble of watching them. Don't forget the necessity for an abundance of fresh water several times daily.